

Relief Ware. Catalogue

Cat. No. R1

HNM 04.67.86b, see Fig. 13

Pilgrim bottle, Khorasan, 10th–12th CE (?)

Earthenware (orange); moulded, assembled

Size (cm): h. 12.2; w. 18; d. (rim) 3.8

Pilgrim bottle with round body assembled from two moulded parts. Neck and handles missing. On both sides: an identical pattern consisting of a central roundel with four crosswise arranged ridges. In the triangular fields: a stylised tree. The concentric band around the central roundel shows radial ridges.



Cat. No. R3

Cat. No. R6

Cat. No. R2

HNM 04.67.86c, see Fig. 14

Pilgrim bottle, Khorasan, 10th–13th CE

Earthenware (buff); moulded

Size (cm): h. 17.9; w. 12.4; d. (rim) 2.6; d. (base) 6.2

Pilgrim bottle with round flat body, assembled from two moulded parts. Narrow cylindrical neck with a pronounced ridge. Two handles are missing. High, splayed ring base. Moulded decoration is composed of a central roundel surrounded by two concentric bands. Central roundel shows a six pointed star ('Solomon's seal'), next band imitates faceting. Outer frieze shows a wavy scroll with bold lanceolate leaves. The composition is identical on both sides.

Cat. No. R3

HNM 89.035

Jug, Khorasan, 10th CE

Earthenware; moulded

Size (cm): h. 5.6; w. 12.8

Fragmented upper part of medium-sized jug with globular body. Neck and handle missing. Moulded decoration shows a composition of running animals in a broad band that resembles the decoration of HNM 89.043 (cat. no. R6) in style and composition: two felines are hunting two quadrupeds. Their bodies show further accentuation by stippling. The ibexes have leaves in their mouths, the tails of the felines are also ending in leaves. The remaining space between the large-sized animals is filled with small quadrupeds.



Cat. No. R4

HNM 89.041
Jug, Khorasan, 10th CE
Earthenware (buff); moulded
Treatment o/s: slip (buff)
Size (cm): h. 6.5; d. (rim) 19
Compare description HNM 89.043 (cat. no. R6).

Cat. No. R5

HNM 89.042
Two fragments of a jug, Khorasan, 10th CE
Earthenware; moulded
Size (cm): d. (rim) 19



Compare description HNM 89.043 (cat. no. R6).

Cat. No. R6

HNM 89.043, see Fig. 43
Fragment of jug, Khorasan, 10th CE
Earthenware (light red); moulded
Size (cm): h. 7.3; d. (rim) 20.3
Fragmented upper part of a moulded jug with hemispherical body and narrow neck. Neck and handle are missing. The entire surface is covered with a figural composition of large-sized running animals hunting each other: feline, goat (?), ram, another feline, an ibex, a little goat and the back of another quadruped. Above and between the large-sized animals are birds and vegetal filler-motives, placed irregularly. The large-sized animals have additional geometric patterns on their bodies: dots, circles. They are rendered in a stylised manner. The tails of the felines end in a lanceolate leaf. The rendition of the lions resembles those depicted on HNM 03.19.86a (cat. no. R23): large eye, head in profile, open mouth, outstretched tongue, small, spiky ears. The fragment stems from a hoard confiscated by the Afghan police: HNM 89.043 was found together with several other fragments that show identical decoration, apart from

the fact that the relief is less pronounced and their diameter is 1 cm less. Furthermore, they have a perforated strainer, whereas HNM 89.043 has just a narrow opening. A possible explanation for these features might be, that HNM 89.043 was used for the creation of a master mould and that the resulting mould was a little smaller in size due to the shrinking process of the clay, when it becomes leather-hard. Sherds with identical decoration were found by the German team during the survey at Palgird on the surface, together with typical slip



painted pottery of the Samanid period, i.e. of the 10th century.

Altogether the hoard comprised four complete or almost complete 'replicas' of HNM 89.043 and sherds of eight further examples. Further sherds showing the same decoration were not registered but just summarised as 'collection of sherds'.

Cat. No. R7

HNM 89.060
Fragmented jug, Khorasan, 10th CE
Earthenware (light red); moulded
Size (cm): h. 14.5



Fragmented upper and lower part of a large, one-handed jug. Neck and handle missing. Remains of strainer. Moulded decoration of

upper part from the same mould as several other fragments in the collection. Compare description of HNM 89.043 (cat. no. R6). The lower part has vertical bands with aligned tiny circles framing large fields. These are filled by diagonal hatching of changing direction.

Cat. No. R8

HNM 89.064
Fragment of jug, Khorasan, 10th CE
Earthenware (red core, buff surface); moulded
Treatment o/s: slip (buff)
Size (cm): h. 6.8; d. (rim) 19



Compare description HNM 89.043 (cat. no. R6).

Cat. No. R9

HNM 89.122, see Fig. 31a-b
Jug, Khorasan, 10th-11th CE
Earthenware (light red); moulded, assembled
Treatment o/s: slip (buff)
Size (cm): h. 16; w. 11.3; d. (base) 6.2



Small jug with globular body, wide, flaring neck, vertical handle attached to body and rim. Flat, slightly concave base. Decoration

of lower part consisting of trefoil arches created by means of a triple line. In the interstices: a teardrop-shaped element. The upper part shows bunches of three rosette flowers growing from a base flanked by a pair of wings.

Cat. No. R10

HNM 89.125a+b, see Fig. 45
Jug, Khorasan, 10th CE
Earthenware; moulded, assembled
Treatment o/s: slip (buff)
Size (cm): d. (rim) 8.3; d. (base) 6



Small jug consisting of elements from three different vessels. Lower part of body created from a crudely made mould with pattern of irregularly placed circles. Upper part shows a composition of ewers with round body and long neck alternating with running animals. The style of the animals resembles HNM 89.043 (cat. no. R6). The neck with lobed rim originally belonged to another vessel.

Cat. No. R11

HNM 89.129
Jug, Khorasan, 10th CE
Earthenware (buff); moulded, assembled
Size (cm): h. 14.8; w. 17.9; d. (base) 8
Moulded jug assembled from two parts that belonged originally to two different objects. Lower part conical, upper part hemispherical. Flat base. Neck and handle missing. Lower part was very roughly finished and has a decoration of vertical panels containing aligned circles. The space between the panels contains further circles, placed irregularly. The upper part of the vessel has the same decoration of running animals as HNM 89.043 (cat. no. R6). The decoration is very imprecise.

Cat. No. R12

HNM 89.136, see Fig. 22a-b
Jug, Khorasan, 11th-13th CE
Earthenware (light red); moulded, assembled
Size (cm): w. 17; d. (rim) 8.5; d. (base) 6.5
Moulded jug with globular body, narrow neck, opening into bulbous upper part, vertical handle. Medium high, flat base, slightly conical.



Moulded decoration is very simple. The lower part has a continuous vertical strap pattern. The upper part shows four bands with reversed S-shaped elements. The uppermost band is framed by a narrow band with vertical strokes.

Cat. No. R13

HNM 03.18.86a
Jug, Khorasan, 13th-15th CE
Earthenware (orange); moulded, assembled



Size (cm): h. 24; w. 15.8; d. (base) 6.8
Jug with pear-shaped body, assembled from two moulded parts, conical neck. Vertical handle, attached to body and rim. Low, flat base, slightly concave. Moulded decoration on lower part of the body. Surface subdivided into trapezoidal fields and narrow vertical bands. Alternating fields with scale pattern and bunches of rosettes. Bands with triangular hooks and aligned roundels. On upper half: endless field pattern of rectangles and elongated pentagonal elements, filled with scrolls, roundels or scale pattern. Ware and colour are unusual.

Cat. No. R14

HNM 03.18.86b, see Fig. 40
Jug, Khorasan, 11th-13th CE
Earthenware (buff); moulded, assembled
Size (cm): h. 19.3; w. 16.3; d. (base) 6.7
Jug with globular body, conical neck, vertical handle attached to shoulder and neck. Medium high, flat base. Strained lower half with two horizontal friezes, the lower one imitating faceting, followed by a broad frieze with a bold inscription in floriated and knotted Kufic standing in slight relief against a crosshatched background. Reading begins somewhat below the handle next to a small bird figure: *al-baraka wa'l-salāma wa'l-sa'āda wa'l-dau* (sic!). On upper half: narrow frieze with a wavy scroll of three-pointed leaves, followed by a broad frieze with an intricately designed inscription in foliated and knotted



Kufic. Reading begins below handle: *al-iqbāl* (? - partly covered by handle) *wa'l-salāma wa'l-sa'āda wa'l-daula 'aml ... bu Ḥāmid bu Aḥmad*. Above the inscription band: a narrow band with a wavy scroll and lanceolate leaves.

Cat. No. R15

HNM 03.18.86c
Jug, Khorasan, 12th–13th CE
Earthenware (orange); moulded, assembled
Treatment o/s: slip (buff)
Size (cm): w. 16.3; d. (base) 7



Jug with globular body, assembled from two moulded parts. Cylindrical neck, upper part damaged. Vertical handle attached to body and below the rim. Medium high, concave base. Lower part shows moulded decoration arranged in two bands:

- stylised figures of a feline walking from right to left
- vertically aligned, column-shaped elements

The upper part of the body is divided into a broad band with a pattern of eight-petalled rosettes arranged in lines. Above this section: a narrow band of quadrangles filled with a scroll or inscription?

Cat. No. R16

HNM 03.18.86d
Jug, Khorasan, 12th–13th CE
Earthenware (orange); moulded, assembled
Treatment o/s: slip (buff)
Size (cm): h. 22.1; w. 17.3; d. (rim) 7;
d. (base) 6.7

Jug with globular body assembled from two moulded parts. Medium high, flat base. Bipartite neck with narrow lower part and wide upper half. Vertical handle attached to body and below the rim, oblong section. Moulded decoration on lower part of the body consists of a broad band with vertically aligned panels containing a wavy

scroll with lanceolate leaves. Upper part of the body has a broad band with a pattern of tiny stars in relief, arranged regularly. They serve as background for four groups of raised, almond-shaped elements. Each group consists of two almond-shaped ele-



ments filled with a symmetrical composition around a central palmette. Between these: an elongated, torch-like element. The frieze is framed on top by a narrow band of palmettes alternating with a tiny star.

Cat. No. R17

HNM 03.18.86e, see Fig. 33a-b
Jug, Khorasan, 12th–13th CE
Earthenware (light brown)
moulded, assembled
Size (cm): h. 24.2; w. 16.5; d. (rim) 6;
d. (base) 7.8



Jug with pear-shaped body assembled from two moulded parts, narrow neck with stepped profile terminating in a medium wide rim. Vertical handle attached to body and rim, round section. Medium high, flat base. Moulded decoration on the lower part. Whole surface subdivided into trapezoidal fields and narrow bands with aligned triangular hooks. On the upper half: pairs of bold lanceolate leaves growing from a horizontal stem. Background is hatched crosswise and framed by a narrow frieze with four-petalled rosettes. The style of decoration, particularly the crosshatched background and the bold leaves are very similar to the decoration of HNM 03.19.86a (cat. no. R23).

Cat. No. R18

HNM 03.18.86g, see Figs. 9, 16, 17
Jug, Khorasan, 12th–13th CE
Earthenware (buff); moulded, assembled
Size (cm): h. 18.8; w. 15.8; d. (rim) 8; d. (base) 5.7
Jug with biconical body assembled from two moulded parts. Conical neck. Vertical handle attached to body and neck, oblong cross section. Medium high, flat base. Strainer inside neck. Moulded decoration on lower part consists of three horizontal bands:

- narrow band with aligned eight-petalled rosettes
- broad band with pointed cross-shaped elements, filled with and surrounded by groups of four dots
- band with triangular rosettes composed of three large and three small leaves placed opposite each other



On upper part: a broad band showing a star-and-cross pattern consisting of pointed cross-shaped elements creating eight-pointed, star-shaped fields (the pattern is well known from tile decorations, particularly

Kashan lustre tiles). The fields are filled with roundels, rosettes and triangular rosettes of the type depicted on the lower part (indicating that both moulds were created as a pair).

A narrow band on top shows a wavy scroll with five-leaf palmettes. The rim shows vertical indentations.

On the base, a central roundel with rosette is surrounded by a concentric band with tiny roundels.

Cat. No. R19

HNM 03.18.86h
Jug, Khorasan, 12th–13th CE
Earthenware (buff)
moulded, assembled
Size (cm): h. 22.4; d. (base) 7.3

Jug with globular body assembled from two moulded parts; high conical neck, handle missing. Medium high, flat base. Moulded decoration on lower part consisting of two friezes; the lower one imitating faceting. The next band is composed of oppositely placed triangles. The standing ones contain a three-lobed, stylised leaf; the hanging ones show a palmette. The upper half has a narrow band with a wavy scroll of lanceolate



leaves, followed by a broad band with roundels. Except two, these are filled with crosswise arranged, three-pointed leaves. Two oppositely placed roundels show an eight-petalled rosette. The third frieze shows an imitation of faceting. In the base: another eight-petalled rosette.



Cat. No. R22

Cat. No. R22 (detail)

